

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 02777 161613Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 FEA-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /069 W
-----170327Z 094778 /65
R 161455Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7791

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 2777

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, EIND, CS
SUBJECT: RECOPE SCANDAL

REF: SAN JOSE 2670

1. EX-PRESIDENT FIGUERES IN A LETTER TO RECOPE MANAGER KOGAN WHICH HAS BEEN RELEASED TO THE PRESS, DENIES THAT ANY SCANDAL IS INVOLVED IN THE SALE OF THE PETROLEUM DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES OF TICO TICOSA TO RECOPE. HE SAID THAT IF ANY OF THE MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS WERE NOT PAID THAT THIS IS A QUARREL BETWEEN THEM AND THE MINORITY SHAREHOLDER QUIROS SASSO, AND DOES NOT INVOLVE THE MAJORITY SHAREHOLDERS.

2. FIGUERES ADMITS IN THE LETTER HIS OWN ASSOCIATION WITH TICO TICOSA, BUT MINIMIZES THAT OF HIS SON, JOSE MARTI FIGUERES. FIGUERES SAYS IN THE LETTER THAT THE MAJORITY OF SHARES OF TICO TICOSA "WERE OWNED BY VARIOUS FIRMS OR PERSONS SOME OF WHICH WERE CONNECTED WITH ME IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER." FIGUERES DID NOT MENTION VESCO OR NORMAN LEBLANC IN HIS LETTER.

3. JORGE GONZALEZ MARTEN, LEADER OF THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENT PARTY (PNI), HAS ALSO BEEN PUBLICLY BROUGHT
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INTO THE SCANDAL BY HIS FORMER ASSOCIATE, CONGRESSMAN PIZA ESCALANTE. PIZA CHARGES THAT THE 22 GASOLINE STATIONS WHICH WERE PURCHASED BY TWO COMPANIES WHICH WERE OWNED BY GONZALEZ MARTEN (DEPESA AND PROMOSA), WERE BOUGHT FOR FIVE MILLION COLONES AND SOLD ONLY 15 DAYS LATER TO RECOPE FOR 17.5 MILLION COLONES. AS IN THE CASE OF THE RECOPE PURCHASE OF GASOLINE STATIONS FROM

INTERESTS ASSOCIATED WITH FIGUERES AND VESCO, THE IMPLICATION IN THIS CASE IS THAT RECOPE PAID EXCESSIVE PRICES FOR THE PROPERTIES. THE SUPPOSED MOTIVE WOULD BE A POLITICAL PAY-OFF BY THE PLN FOR COOPERATION FROM GONZALEZ MARTEN'S PARTY.
KILDAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CORRUPTION, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, FRAUDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANJO02777
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770216-0343
Format: TEL
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770650/aaaabrmo.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2128025
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECOPE SCANDAL
TAGS: ENRG, EIND, CS
To: STATE
Type: TE
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